

Ecological Deliverability Report

Land at Wool, Dorset

The Lulworth Estate & Redwood Partnership

September 2015



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Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	Approach	1
2	Biodiversity baseline	3
2.1	Designated sites of nature conservation value	3
2.2	Habitats	7
2.3	Protected and Notable Species	11
3	Conclusion and recommendations	15
3.1	Potential ecological constraints	15
3.2	Recommended further surveys, assessment and consultation	17
4	References	19

Figures

- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: Proposed development site Phase 1 Habitat plan, target notes and photographs
- Figure 3: Proposed SANG Phase 1 Habitat plan, target notes and photographs
- Figure 4: Designated sites of nature conservation value

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Species legislation and conservation status
- Appendix 2: Plant species list
- Appendix 3: Conservation Objectives of European Designated Sites

1 Introduction

1.1 Introduction

EAD Ecology has been commissioned by the Lulworth Estate and Redwood Partnership to undertake an ecological deliverability study for land proposed for residential development at Wool, Dorset (approximate NGR SY836860; refer to Figure 1). The proposed development (hereafter referenced as 'the site') comprises seven parcels of land that have been identified by Purbeck District Council as potentially suitable for development in the Local Plan Review Issues and Options consultation, together with Coombe Wood, an area identified as potential Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG). The deliverability study is documented in this report and includes the following:

- Preliminary ecological baseline of the site;
- Potential ecological constraints to the development of the site;
- Assessment of the site in terms of suitability for development; and
- Further ecological work that would be undertaken to support a planning application.

All work has been undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management's (CIEEM) Code of Practice.

1.2 Approach

A preliminary understanding of the ecological baseline of the site was derived through desk study and site survey.

1.2.1 Desk study

Biodiversity information was requested for a study area of 2km radius around the site from Dorset Environmental Records Centre (DERC), extended to 4km radius for bat records. Information requested included the location and details of the following:

- Designated sites of nature conservation value (statutory and non-statutory; extended to 10km for European statutory designated sites using the Defra MAGIC website);
- Previous records of protected and/or notable species, including Species of Principal Importance for Conservation in England ('Priority Species').

Information was also obtained from the following websites:

 www.magic.gov.uk – Information on statutory protected sites up to 15km from the site;

- www.naturalengland.co.uk Information on protected sites, Natural Area profiles and 'Priority Habitats'; and
- www.nbn.org.uk Protected species distribution.

1.2.2 Site survey

An Extended Phase 1 Habitat survey of the site was undertaken on 5 August 2015 and 15 September 2015. The survey followed standard IEA Guidelines (1997) and JNCC methodology (2010) and involved a surveyor recording the habitats on the site and the presence/potential presence of protected and notable¹ species. The results of the survey were detailed on a Phase 1 Habitat plan; refer to Figure 2. Target notes were used to identify specific features of ecological interest.

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¹ Notable species are those which hold a specific conservation status e.g. Priority Species, IUCN Red Data Species. Some notable species may also be legally protected; refer to Appendix 1.

2 Biodiversity baseline

2.1 Designated sites of nature conservation value

The site does not lie within or adjoining any statutory designated sites of nature conservation value; refer to Figure 3. Seven internationally designated sites lie within 10km of the application site; refer to Table 2. Conservation Objectives for the sites are provided in Appendix 3.

Table 2: Internationally designated sites within 10km of proposed application site

Site Name Distance and Designated features		
	Distance and direction from site	Designated features
Dorset Heaths Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	1.5km north and west at nearest points	 Contains Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> Contains European dry heaths Contains Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion Supports southern damselfly
Dorset Heathlands Special Protection Area (SPA)	1.5km north and west at nearest points	 Supports at least 26.1% of the breeding population in Great Britain of Dartford warbler Supports at least 11.4% of the breeding population in Great Britain of nightjar Supports at least 4.0% of the breeding population in Great Britain of woodlark Supports at least 2.7% of the wintering population in Great Britain of hen harrier Supports at least 1.0% of the wintering population in Great Britain of merlin
Dorset Heathlands Ramsar	1.5km north and west at nearest points	 Supports one nationally rare and 13 nationally scarce wetland plant species, and at least 28 nationally rare wetland invertebrate species. Has a high species richness and high ecological diversity of wetland habitat types and transitions, and lies in one of the most biologically-rich wetland areas of lowland Britain, being continuous with three other Ramsar sites: Poole Harbour, Avon Valley and The New Forest. Contains northern Atlantic wet heaths with cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i> and acid mire with <i>Rhynchosporion</i>. Contains southern Atlantic wet heaths with Dorset heath <i>Erica ciliaris</i> and cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i>.
Dorset Heaths (Purbeck & Wareham) & Studland Dunes SAC	7.3km northeast at nearest point	 Contains Embyonic shifting dunes Contains "Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (""white dunes"")" Contains Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea) Contains Humos dune slacks Contains Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)

Table 2: Internationally designated sites within 10km of proposed application site

Site Name	Distance and	ce and Designated features	
one Hame	direction from site	Designated realtines	
Isle of Portland to Studland Cliffs SAC Poole Harbour SPA	4.1km south at nearest point 7.8km east	 Contains Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix Contains Temperate Atlantic wet heaths with Erica ciliaris and Erica tetralix Contains European dry heaths Contains Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion Contains Bog woodland Supports southern damselfly Contains Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts Contains Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) Supports Early gentian Supports at least 1.3% of the breeding population in Great Britain of Common tern Supports at least 50.0% of the breeding population in Great Britain of Mediterranean gull 	
		 Supports at least 16.4% of the population in Great Britain of Aquatic warbler on passage Supports at least 13.4% of the population in Great Britain of Little egret on passage Supports at least 36.1% of the wintering population in Great Britain of Avocet Supports at least 16.6% of the wintering population in Great Britain of Little egret Supports at least 2.3% of the wintering Iceland-breeding population of Black-tailed godwit Supports at least 1.2% of the wintering Northwestern Europe population of Shelduck Regularly supports at least 20,000 waterfowl 	
Poole Harbour Ramsar	7.8km east	 The best and largest example of a bar-built estuary with lagoonal characteristics (a natural harbour) in Britain. Supports two species of nationally rare plant and one nationally rare alga. There are at least three British Red data book invertebrate species. The site includes examples of natural habitat types of community interest - Mediterranean and thermo Atlantic halophilous scrubs, in this case dominated by Suaeda vera, as well as calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus. Transitions from saltmarsh through to peatland mires are of exceptional conservation importance as few such examples remain in Britain. The site supports nationally important populations of breeding waterfowl including Common tern, Sterna hirundo and Mediterranean gull Larus melanocephalus. Over winter the site also supports a nationally important population of Avocet Recurvirostra avosetta. Assemblages of international importance of wildfowl. Qualifying populations of common shelduck and black- 	

Table 2: Internationally designated sites within 10km of proposed application site

Site Name	Distance and direction from site	Designated features
		tailed godwit.

There are a further 12 statutory sites of nature conservation value within 5km of the site, including 11 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and one Local Nature Reserve (LNR); further details are provided in Table 3 and Figure 3.

Table 3: Statutory designated sites within 5km of proposed application site

Site Name	Distance and direction from site	Designated features
Lulworth Park and Lake SSSI	2.7km southeast	Ancient parkland trees with an important assemblage of lichens. Also of interest for its wetland bird community.
Stokeford Heaths SSSI	2.2km northeast	One of the major lowland heathland areas in Britain and is of international importance for its plant and animal communities
Winfrith Heath SSSI	1.6km west	One of the major lowland heathland areas in Britain and is of international importance for its plant and animal communities
South Dorset Coast SSSI	4.1km south	A rich range of wildlife habitats supporting populations of several rare plants and animals.
Turners Puddle Heath SSSI	1.5km north	One of the largest continuous heathland tracts remaining in Dorset. Supports populations of several rare plants and animals.
River Frome SSSI	0.2km north	The most westerly example of a major chalk stream in Great Britain. Supports a species-rich plant community, rare and scarce aquatic species, breeding riverside birds and important fish species.
Oakers Wood SSSI	4.8km northwest	Predominantly acid oak woodland with hazel coppice and stands of birch and ash.
Oakers Bog SSSI	4.8km northwest	Large and undamaged valley mire with wet and dry heathland which supports a rich assemblage of heathland plants and animals.
Morden Bog And Hyde Heath SSSI	4.9km northeast	One of the major lowland heathland areas in Britain and is of international importance for its plant and animal communities.
Povington And Grange Heaths SSSI	2.1km southeast	A substantial tract of heathland with bordering grasslands and woodland, with a rich associated fauna.
Worgret Heath SSSI	4.6km east	Small area of heathland which is important for the rare and protected sand lizard.
Eight Acre Wood LNR SSSI	1.3km northeast	Ancient oak and ash woodland.

A further 22 non-statutory designated sites occur within 2km of the site. This includes 19 Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI), one Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) Reserve and two DWT Conservation Verges (one of which occurs immediately adjacent to the site boundary). Details of these sites are provided in Table 4 and Figure 3.

Table 4: Local Wildlife Sites within 3km of the site

LWS Name	Distance and direction from site	Designated features
Long/Perry Copses and Blindman's Wood	0.6km northeast	Semi-natural woodland and conifer plantation.
Higher Wood	1.6km northeast	Small degraded deciduous woodland on acid soil in Bovington Camp.
Oakley Wood	1.7km south	An oak/ash/hazel woodland with a good ground flora.
Westwood Coppice	0.9km south	A small oak/hazel coppice with a good ground flora.
Eight Acre Coppice	1.3km northeast	An area of deciduous woodland.
Bramble Coppice	1.4km southeast	A small semi-deciduous woodland.
Dorset Wood	0.8km southeast	A small oak/hazel woodland.
Haremere Wood	1.4km southeast	Coniferous and deciduous woodland on an ancient woodland site.
Woolbridge-Hyford Ditches	0.2km north	Series of drains with an interesting flora.
Lytchett Bridge	1.3km northeast	Dry and wet acid grassland with a rich flora.
Winfrith	1.6km northwest	Small remnant of heathland habitats and wet woodland.
Highwood Wood	1.2km southeast	Relict deciduous woodland and the edge of conifer plantation.
Baker's Well Valley	2.0km northeast	An area of deciduous woodland.
Holy Stream	1.2km northeast	Remnant of semi-natural woodland on edge of plantation.
Burton Heath East	0.9km northwest	A small site of heathland and carr woodland habitats.
Eweyards Coppice	1.2km southeast	An oak and ash woodland over hazel coppice.
Barn Coppice	1.0km southeast	A small oak and birch woodland.
Wool Meadow	0.6km northeast	A small meadow of wet neutral grassland.
Oak Tree Farm	1.8km southeast	A small area of unimproved neutral grassland with marshy grassland.
East Stoke Fen DWT	1.6km southeast	Reedmarsh and wet woodland to oak copse.

Table 4: Local Wildlife Sites within 3km of the site

LWS Name	Distance and direction from site	Designated features
Reserve		
New Buildings DWT Conservation Verge	Immediately adjacent to western site boundary.	Scabious, Chicory and other bright, attractive flora.
Newtown Hill DWT Conservation Verge	1.6km south	Southern Marsh Orchid present.

There are also five Habitat Restoration Sites and one Veteran Tree within 2km of the centre of the site; refer to Figure 3 for locations.

2.2 Habitats

2.2.1 Habitats within site

The survey covered an area of approximately 45ha and comprised agricultural land including arable and poor semi-improved grassland fields bounded by narrow hedgerows and fences. An area of marshy grassland, swamp and standing water was present in the east of the site, with an allotment area and dense scrub adjacent. Detailed habitat descriptions are provided below, which should be read in conjunction with the habitat map, target notes [TNs] and accompanying photographs; refer to Figure 2.

Amenity grassland

An amenity grassland verge was present along the southern boundary of Area F. This was heavily managed, with a short-mown sward dominated by perennial rye grass, white clover and creeping buttercup.

Arable

The majority of the site was dominated by arable habitats. At the time of survey, several of these fields had been left fallow and the rest contained cereal crops. Arable weed species were recorded within the fields, including corn marigold, mugwort and common poppy. Field margins measured 1m-3m and comprised coarse grasses and ruderal species.

Buildings

A wooden stable building with a flat corrugated roof was located in Area H [TN 7].

Broadleaved trees

Occasional mature and semi-mature broadleaved trees were present within hedgerows and along field boundaries within the site. Species included oak, ash, beech and sycamore.

Bracken

This habitat was present along several field boundaries within Areas F and G.

Coniferous trees

A line of mature cypress trees was present in Area A.

Hedgerows

Hedgerows occurred along most of the field boundaries within the site. These were predominantly between 1.5m and 3m tall and were a mix of unmanaged hedgerows and hedgerows subject to regular agricultural management (i.e. annual flailing). Mature hedgerow trees, mainly pedunculate oak, ash and willow, occurred along several of the hedgerows. Shrub species included hawthorn, blackthorn, willow, field maple, elm, hazel, holly, dog-rose and elder. The ground-flora was generally species-poor and included upright hedge-parsley, lords-and-ladies, dog's-mercury, harts-tongue fern, soft shield-fern, ground-ivy and ivy. Hedgerows have the potential to qualify as 'important' under the ecological criteria of the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 (as amended). All hedgerows are Priority Habitats.

Introduced shrub

This habitat was present along the eastern boundary of Area H, associated with adjoining gardens, and comprised lilac and other ornamental species.

Marshy grassland

Areas of unmanaged marshy grassland occurred within the former watercress bed area on the eastern side of Area A. Herbaceous species included fleabane, meadowsweet, marsh thistle, water figwort, purple loosestrife and water mint. A smaller area of marshy grassland was also present in Area F, and was dominated by soft rush, with water mint and Yorkshire fog also present.

Open water

The former watercress beds (Area A) comprised areas of slow-flowing shallow water up to 15cm deep over a gravel substrate. Some areas of watercress remained within these areas.

Poor semi-improved grassland

Poor semi-improved grassland occurred in Areas F and H. Both areas had a short sward, with Area H grazed by horses and Area F recently mown. Herbaceous species included white clover, creeping buttercup, creeping thistle, yarrow, common sorrel and common catsear.

Plantation broadleaved woodland

This habitat adjoined the railway line on the northern side of the site (Area H) and comprised semi-mature oak, silver birch, rowan, field maple, Scot's pine and sweet chestnut.

Running water

A stream flowed along part of the northern boundary of Area F with west to east alignment. This stream was approximately 4-5m wide and up to 1m deep, and bed substrate was mud with earth banks. There was little associated aquatic vegetation. Streams are a Priority Habitat.

Scrub

Areas of dense scrub occurred within the former watercress bed area (Area A) comprising willow, hawthorn, hazel elder, sycamore and bramble. A belt of willow carr also occurred along the northern boundary of Area F.

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland

A narrow belt of semi-natural broadleaved woodland was present along the southern boundary of Area F and was dominated by ash, sycamore and oak, with occasional hazel and hawthorn understorey. The ground flora comprised common nettle and common ivy.

Swamp

Areas of swamp vegetation occurred along the margins of the watercress beds, dominated by branched bur-reed and bulrush.

Tall ruderal

Tall ruderal habitats occurred along some field margins and were by dominated by common nettle, with frequent hogweed.

2.2.2 Habitats within proposed SANG area

The proposed SANG at Coombe Wood covered an area of approximately 36ha and comprised predominantly coniferous and mixed plantation woodland, together with some areas of semi-natural broadleaved woodland. Detailed habitat descriptions are provided below, which should be read in conjunction with the habitat map, target notes [TNs] and accompanying photographs; refer to Figure 3.

Bare ground

This habitat comprised several access tracks and footpaths through the woodland.

Buildings

Several small metal buildings associated with the reservoir were present [TN 4].

Bracken

This habitat was present along track edges and rides cut for pylons.

Poor semi-improved grassland

Poor semi-improved grassland was present over the covered reservoir [TN 4] and was dominated by cocksfoot, perennial rye-grass and Yorkshire fog. Herbaceous species included white clover, creeping buttercup, creeping thistle, yarrow, common sorrel and common catsear.

Plantation coniferous woodland

Plantation coniferous woodland dominated by Corsican pine, with occasional Douglas fir, Norway spruce, larch, birch and hazel, was present in several areas of Coombe Wood [TN 1, 5, 7 & 8]. The ground flora was limited in these areas, and dominated by bracken.

Plantation mixed woodland

This habitat dominated the southern section of Coombe Wood [TN 2] and comprised a range of coniferous and broadleaved tree species, including birch, larch, hazel, oak, Douglas fir, willow species, Corsican pine, Norway spruce, ash and sycamore. Understory species included blackthorn, holly and hawthorn.

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland

This habitat was present through the central part of Coombe Wood [TN 6]. The canopy comprised ash, oak and birch, with occasional larch, willow and Corsican pine. The understory vegetation was dominated by hazel, with blackthorn, holly and hawthorn. The ground flora was dominated by bramble, woodland spurge, common nettle and ivy.

Scrub

An area of sense bramble scrub was present around the reservoir [TN4].

Standing water

A pond was present in the centre of Coombe Wood [TN 3]. This was shallow (<30cm) and measured approximately 8m in diameter. The water was heavily shaded by overhanging trees, with floating sweet grass but little other associated aquatic vegetation.

2.2.3 Surrounding habitats

The site was located on the southern and western edges side of Wool. Areas to the north and east of the site were predominantly urban, comprising areas of residential and commercial built development. Areas to the south and west were predominantly agricultural, comprising pasture and arable bounded by hedgerows, with occasional

broadleaved and coniferous woodland, together with a former MOD research facility to the west of Wool that is being developed as a technology park.

2.3 Protected and Notable Species²

2.3.1 Lichens

Desk study

Notable lichen records from within the study area include southern grey physcia, a species that receives partial legal protection and is a Priority Species, and a further five Nationally Rare or Nationally Scarce species.

Site survey

No notable lichen species were recorded during the Extended Phase 1 survey, and their presence was considered unlikely.

2.3.2 Plants

Desk study

Notable plant records from within the study area include the partially-legally protected species English bluebell and Deptford pink. Deptford pink is also a Priority Species. Tubular water dropwort, a Priority Species, and chaffweed and allseed, both Dorset BAP Species, were also recorded within the study area. A further 25 Dorset or Nationally notable species were recorded. Japanese knotweed, rhododendron, Himalayan balsam and Nuttall's waterweed, all invasive / non-native species for which it is an offence to plant or otherwise cause to grow in the wild have also been recorded previously within the study area.

Site survey

No notable plant species were recorded during the Extended Phase 1 survey, and their presence was considered unlikely. No legally controlled invasive/non-native species, such as Japanese knotweed, were recorded during the survey.

2.3.3 Invertebrates

Desk study

A number of notable invertebrate species have been recorded within the study area including 38 Priority Species of butterfly and moth, including white-lettered hairstreak and silver-studded blue, which are also legally protected. Desmoulin's whorl snail, brown diving beetle, two-tone reed beetle and hornet robber fly, all Priority Species, have also been recorded.

² The legislation and conservation status of the species listed is detailed in Appendix 1.

Site survey

Hedgerow, standing water, swamp, marshy grassland, scrub, woodland and tall ruderal habitats were suitable for a range of common / widespread invertebrate species. The watercress beds provided potentially suitable habitats for Desmoulin's whorl snail. The presence of notable invertebrate species was considered unlikely.

2.3.4 Amphibians

Desk study

There are records of great crested newt from the study area, including several from Frome Avenue, which is immediately adjacent to the northern section of the site. Great crested newt is legally protected and a Priority Species. Common toad, a Priority Species, has also been recorded within the study area.

Site survey

No breeding habitat for amphibians occurred within the site boundary, although ponds were present within the vicinity of the site e.g. within 250m. Hedgerows, woodland, scrub, grassland and field margins provided potential terrestrial habitat.

2.3.5 Reptiles

Desk study

Grass snake, adder, smooth snake, sand lizard, slow-worm and common lizard have all been recorded in the study area. All reptiles are legally protected and Priority Species.

Site survey

Hedgerows, woodland, swamp/standing water, marshy grassland, allotments and associated margins provided suitable habitat for reptiles. The majority of arable and grassland habitat within the site provided sub-optimal habitat.

2.3.6 Birds

Desk study

A number of notable bird species have been recorded in the study area, including the 'Schedule 1' species, bittern, wryneck and woodlark. A further 22 Priority Species and 'Species of Conservation Concern' (SoCC) (Eaton *et al.*, 2009) were recorded. All birds, their nests and young are legally protected; those listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) receive additional protection against disturbance when nesting.

Site survey

Habitats within the site provided suitable nesting habitat for a range of common/widespread species, including SoCC/Priority Species such as song thrush

and dunnock. The presence of ground nesting species such as skylark was considered possible within arable fields.

2.3.7 Bats

Desk study

At least 10 bat species have been recorded in the wider 4km study area comprising whiskered/Brandt's, brown long-eared, grey long-eared, common pipistrelle, Daubenton's, greater horseshoe, Natterer's, noctule, soprano pipistrelle and serotine bats. A number of bat roosts have also been recorded within the study area, including a serotine and long-eared bat roost to the immediate north of the site boundary. All bats are legally protected and a number are Priority Species.

Site survey

A number of mature trees were identified during the Phase 1 survey that were likely to have high or moderate potential to support roosting bats (Category 1* or 1), when assessed in accordance with Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) guidance (Hundt, 2012). Buildings were considered to provide low potential to support roosting bats. Hedgerow, woodland and standing water habitats were considered to provide suitable foraging/commuting habitats and corridors for a range of bat species. Grassland is likely to provide seasonal foraging habitat.

2.3.8 Badgers

Desk study

Badger is a legally protected species and has previously been recorded in the study area.

Site survey

A detailed survey for badgers was not undertaken during the Extended Phase 1 survey. However, a number of mammal holes were identified within the site that were highly likely to be associated with badger. A number of mammal paths and crossing points were also recorded, together with dung pits.

2.3.9 Hazel dormouse

Desk study

The DERC data search identified no previous records of dormouse from the study area. Dormouse is legally protected and a Priority Species.

Site survey

Hedgerows, scrub and woodland provided suitable habitat for this species.

2.3.10 Otter and water vole

Desk study

There are several water vole and otter records from within the study area. Both are legally protected species and Priority Species.

Site survey

Standing water provided suitable conditions for water vole and otter.

2.3.11 Other mammals

Desk study

Hedgehog and brown hare, both of which are Priority Species, have been recorded within the study area.

Site survey

Hedgerows, woodland, grassland and scrub provided suitable habitat for hedgehog. Brown hare, a further Priority Species, could also be present in arable and grassland habitats.

3 Conclusion and recommendations

3.1 Potential ecological constraints

There are no overriding ecological constraints to the development of the site. Development could be undertaken in accordance with biodiversity policies within the National Planning Policy Framework, the Local Plan and in accordance with Purbeck District Council's obligations under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010; as amended).

3.1.1 Designated sites of nature conservation value

Consultation has been undertaken with Natural England to consider the potential effects of the allocation on European Sites of nature conservation value (i.e. SACs, SPAs and Ramsar Sites). The results of this consultation, including supporting information, are documented in a separate 'Habitats Regulations Appraisal Statement', which accompanies the submission to Purbeck District Council (EAD Ecology, September 2015). The potential effects and agreed avoidance measures are summarised in Table 5.

Table 5 – Potential adverse effects on European Sites and agreed avoidance measures

Potential Adverse Effect	Avoidance measures
Increased recreational pressure on Dorset	Provision of Suitable Alternative Natural
Heaths.	Greenspace (SANG) at Coombe Wood.
Air quality effects on Dorset Heaths resulting from changes in traffic flows.	Confirmation that no significant changes in traffic within 200m of the European Sites are predicted.
Changes in water quality affecting Poole Harbour SPA / Ramsar	Confirmation that the proposed development could deliver 'nutrient neutrality'.

The results of the consultation and agreed avoidance measures reflect the findings of the Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Local Plan Review (Liley, 2015) and *The Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework 2015-2020 Supplementary Planning Document (Consultation Draft).* With the provision of appropriate avoidance measures, it is concluded that development of up to 1000 new dwellings within the allocation could be accommodated with no risk or probability of a likely significant effect on European Sites of nature conservation value. This would be in accordance with Purbeck District Council's obligations under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). No impacts to other designated or non-statutory sites of nature conservation value are foreseen as a result of the proposed development.

3.1.2 Proposed residential development areas

Ecological issues within the proposed residential development areas relate to the potential presence of 'Important' hedgerows, invasive plant species and the potential presence of the following protected and notable species:

- Invertebrates within the former watercress site (Area A).
- Great crested newt.
- Reptiles such as slow-worm, common lizard and grass snake.
- Breeding birds.
- Bats.
- Badger.
- Hazel dormouse.
- Water vole.
- Otter.

Depending on the extent of the development proposals, further survey would be undertaken to determine the presence of some/all of these species to inform the development layout, planning application and any requirement for Natural England Development Licences; refer to Section 3.2. Potential adverse impacts on these species, should they occur, could be mitigated through careful design of the layout and/or species-related mitigation measures e.g. timing of vegetation removal; zoning and fencing of areas during construction; and translocation of species outside of the areas of development.

3.1.3 Proposed Coombe Wood SANG

It is proposed that Coombe Wood is managed as Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) to mitigate potential adverse impacts on the Dorset Heathland European Sites as a result of increased recreational pressure; refer to Section 3.1.1. This would include management of the woodland to increase its recreational and biodiversity value, comprising restoration of existing plantation coniferous woodland to native broadleaved woodland and creation of a series of rides and glades along proposed walking routes. Further information on the proposed management is included in the separate Habitats Regulations Appraisal Statement that accompanies the submission to Purbeck District Council.

No overriding ecological constraints have been identified that that would preclude development of the SANG at this location. Further survey would be undertaken to identify sensitive features that could be affected by the proposals, including the following protected and notable species:

- Great crested newt.
- Reptiles such as slow-worm, common lizard and grass snake.
- Breeding birds.
- Bats.

- Badger.
- Hazel dormouse.

Should the presence of such features be identified, it is considered that localised management (e.g. routing of footpaths and retention of existing broadleaved trees) would avoid potential adverse impacts. It is considered that the proposed management and restoration of the woodland would provide benefits to the biodiversity value of this area.

3.2 Recommended further surveys, assessment and consultation

3.2.1 Further surveys and assessment

Table 5 provides the scope and timing for further (Phase 2) ecological surveys that could be required (based on a start date of April).

Table 5: Timetable for recommended further surveys (based on a start date of April)

Survey	Survey period
Hedgerow survey according to the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 (as amended)	Single survey visit during May or June.
Desmoulin's whorl snail	Search of suitable habitat in August.
Great crested newt survey	Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) assessment of ponds within 250m of the application site, followed by an eDNA water survey in mid April. If presence confirmed, six survey visits of pond(s) in April-June using bottle/torchlight methods to produce population estimate.
Reptile survey	Seven survey visits between April and June.
Breeding bird survey	Three survey visits between April and June.
Hazel dormouse survey	Nesting tube survey between April and September; search for feeding signs in September.
Badger survey (including 30m outside of the site boundary wherever possible)	Single survey visit in April.
Bat activity surveys and static bat detectors	Six monthly activity surveys between April and September, including deployment of static detectors for a minimum of five nights per month.
Bat roost surveys of trees and buildings	Inspection of trees and buildings in April to assess their suitability to support roosting bats. Further surveys may be required between May and September depending on the results of the inspections and development

Survey	Survey period
	proposals.
Otter and water vole survey	Single survey visit in April.

The above survey information would provide a complete ecological baseline for the site, against which the ecological impacts of the proposed development could be assessed. This could be documented in an Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) to support a planning application for the site, carried out according to CIEEM Guidelines (2006). Assuming commencement in April, surveys could be completed by September.

As detailed in Section 3.1.1., it is considered that residential development of the allocation would not have a risk or probability of a likely significant effect on the European designated sites of nature conservation value. A screening request under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) for each planning application within the allocation would be submitted to Purbeck District Council. This would mirror the conclusions detailed in this report, which would mean that Purbeck District Council would not have to undertake formal Appropriate Assessment for each application.

3.2.2 Consultation

The proposed scope of the surveys and assessment would be agreed initially with Purbeck District Council and Natural England. Depending on the results of the surveys, further consultation would be undertaken with these parties to discuss any species-specific mitigation strategies.

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www.magic.gov.uk (MAGIC)

www.naturalengland.org (Natural England)

www.nbn.org.uk (National Biodiversity Network)

www.rspb.org.uk (Royal Society for Protection of Birds)

Figure 1: Site location Plan

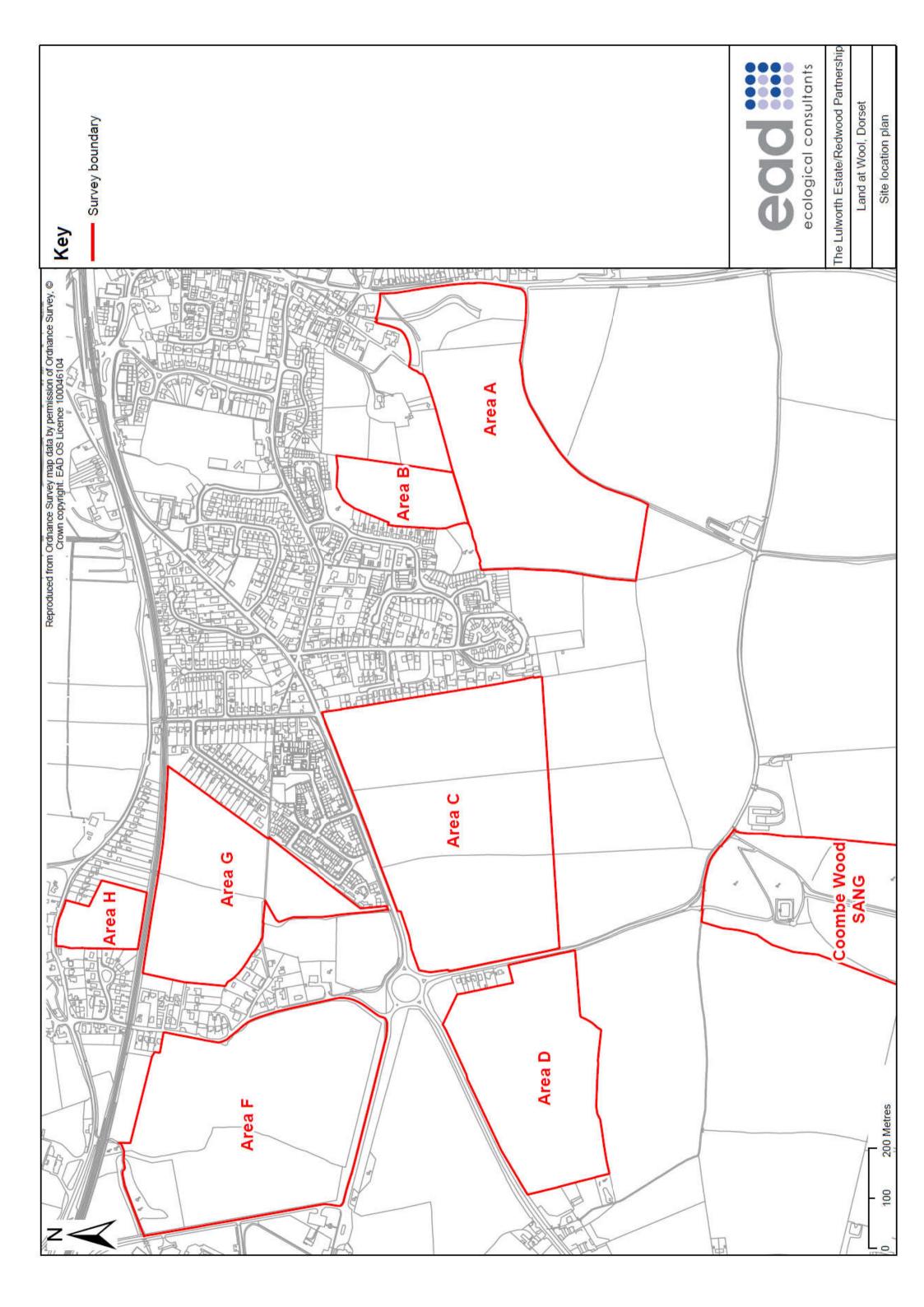
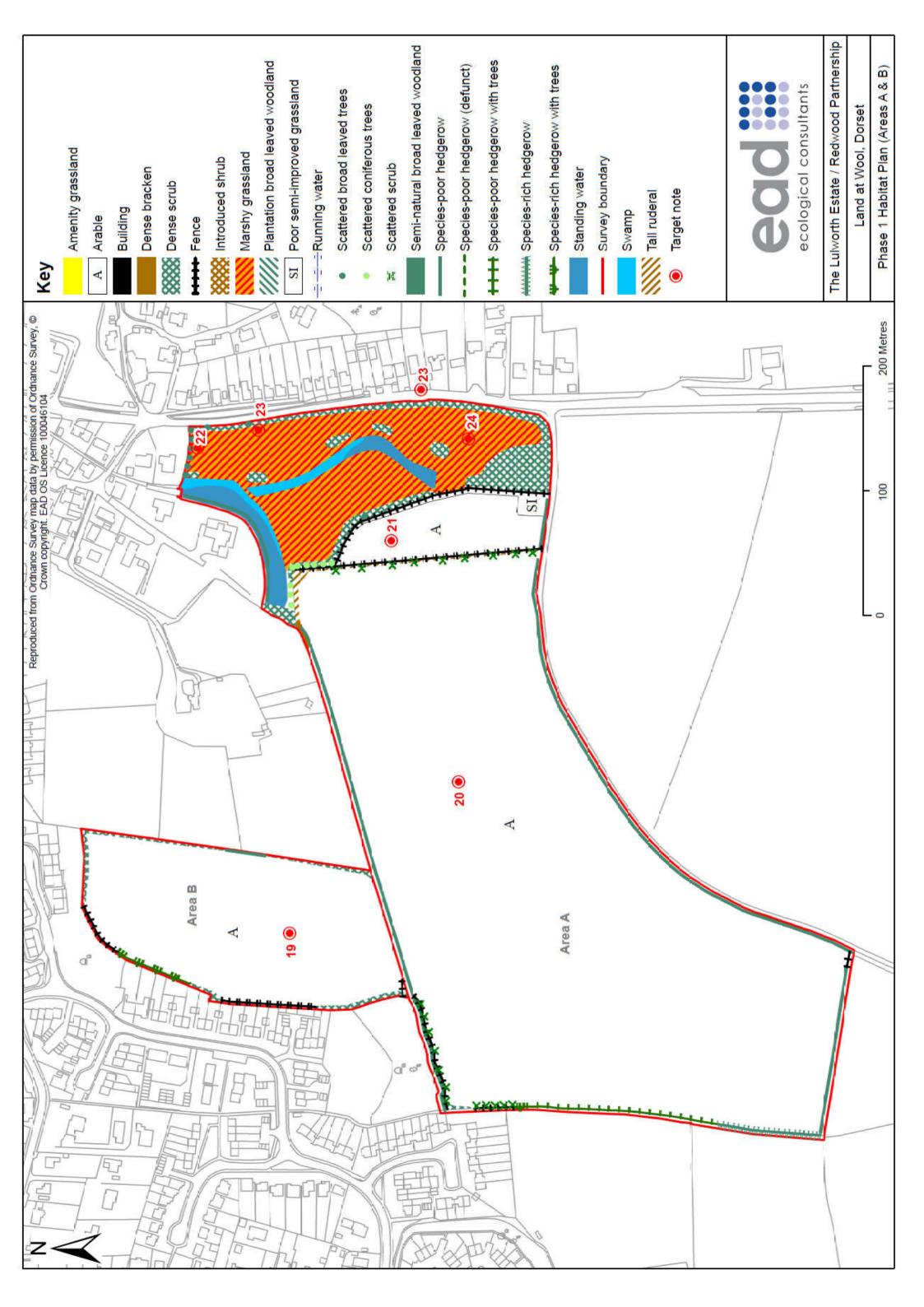
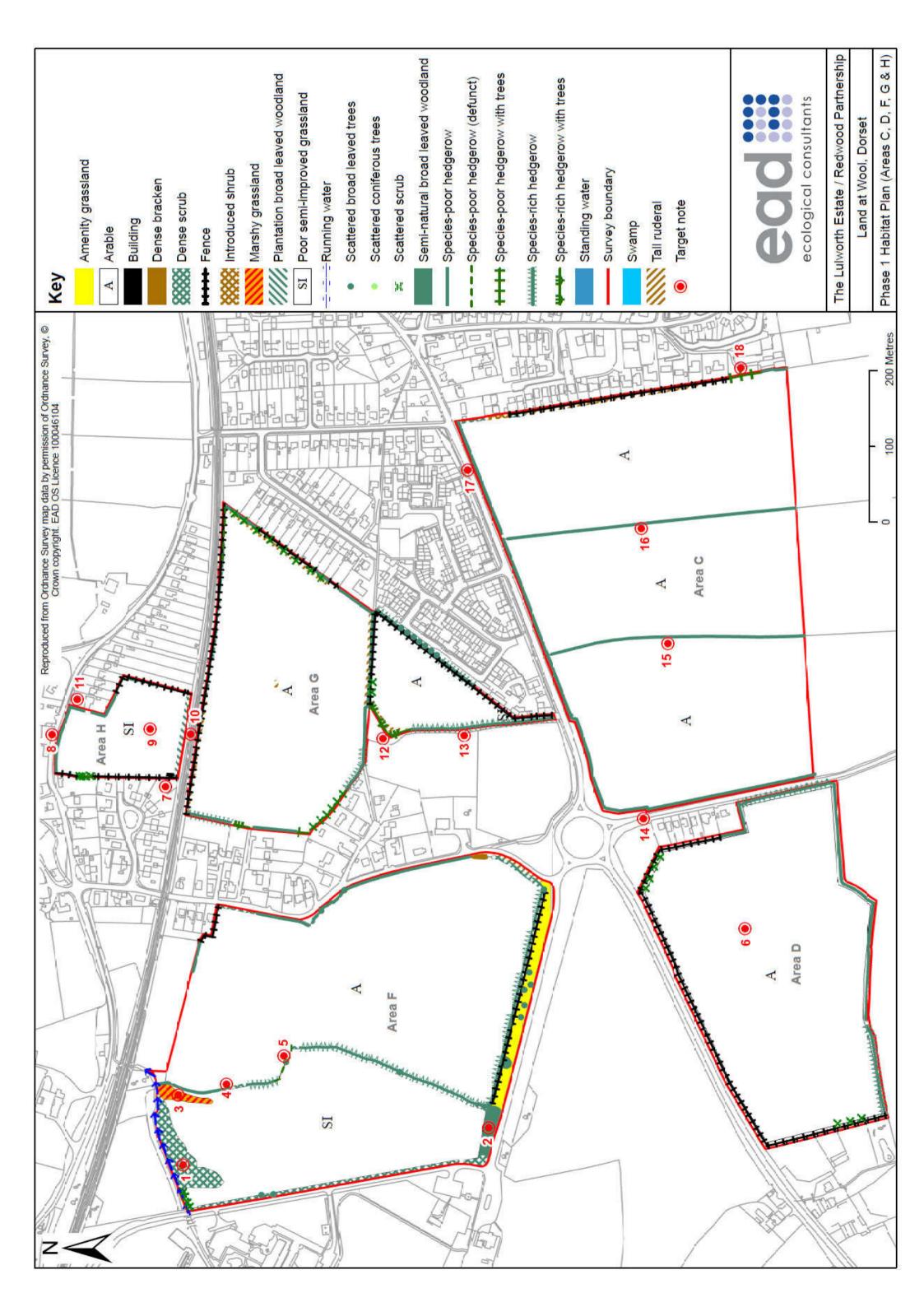


Figure 2: Proposed development site phase 1 habitat plan, target notes and photographs





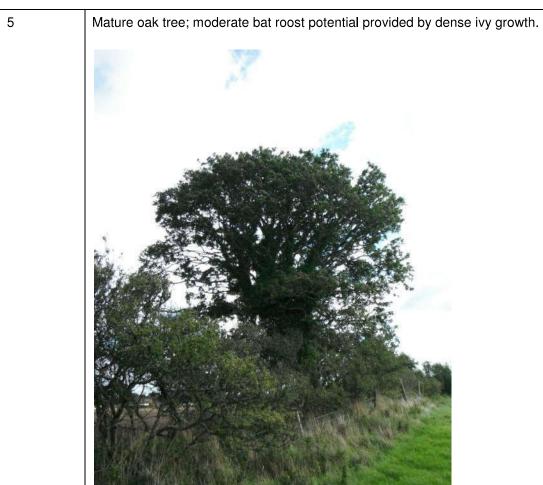
Target **Description** note number 1 Willow carr; dominated by Salix species, little understory. Groundflora comprised soft rush, Yorkshire fog, floating sweet-grass and common nettle. 2 Narrow belt of secondary broadleaved woodland; canopy comprised ash and field maple, with understory species including holly, elder and hawthorn. Ground flora dominated by ivy.

Marshy grassland and ephemeral pond. Dominant species is soft rush, with Yorkshire fog, water mint, common vetch and cocksfoot.



4 Mature oak tree; moderate bat roost potential provided by dense ivy growth.







7

Wooden stable building with flat corrugated roof.



8 Species-poor hedgerow, hawthorn / blackthorn dominated with occasional elder. Ground flora includes ivy and lords-and-ladies.



Horse grazed poor semi-improved grassland. Species included perennial rye-grass, white clover, creeping buttercup, creeping thistle, yarrow, common sorrel, common catsear.



Strip of semi-mature plantation woodland adjoining railway with oak, silver birch, rowan, field maple, Scot's pine and sweet chestnut. Understorey of nettle and bramble.



Hedgerow adjoining houses with frequent non-native / ornamental species; cypress sp., copper beech and laurel.



Hedgerow with mature willow with cracks / splits and small dead limbs. Cat 1-2.



13 Two entrance badger sett within hedgerow.



Blackthorn, willow, bramble and hawthorn hedge <4m. Ground flora includes false wood brome, hogweed, bramble and nettles. Frequent mammal paths visible inside hedge.



Arable sown with cereal crop (oats). Fairly weedy, with corn marigold, creeping thistle, mayweed sp., mugwort and common poppy.



Species-poor hedgerow <4m. Hawthorn dominated with occasional blackthorn.



Blackthorn / hawthorn hedge <4m. Ground flora includes lords-and-ladies, hogweed, bramble and nettles. Frequent mammal paths visible inside hedge.



Hedge with row of mature / semi-mature ash (Cat 2-3) and a mature ivy covered oak with frequent cracks / splits and small dead limbs; Cat 1+. Well worn mammal paths under trees.



19

Arable field sown with a grass and red clover ley.



Arable field sown with red clover. Arable weeds also present, including scented mayweed, common poppy, corn marigold and wild pansy.



21 Allotments.



22 Row of pollarded silver birch, Cat 2-3.



Two mature ash along boundary; Cat 2-1.

23

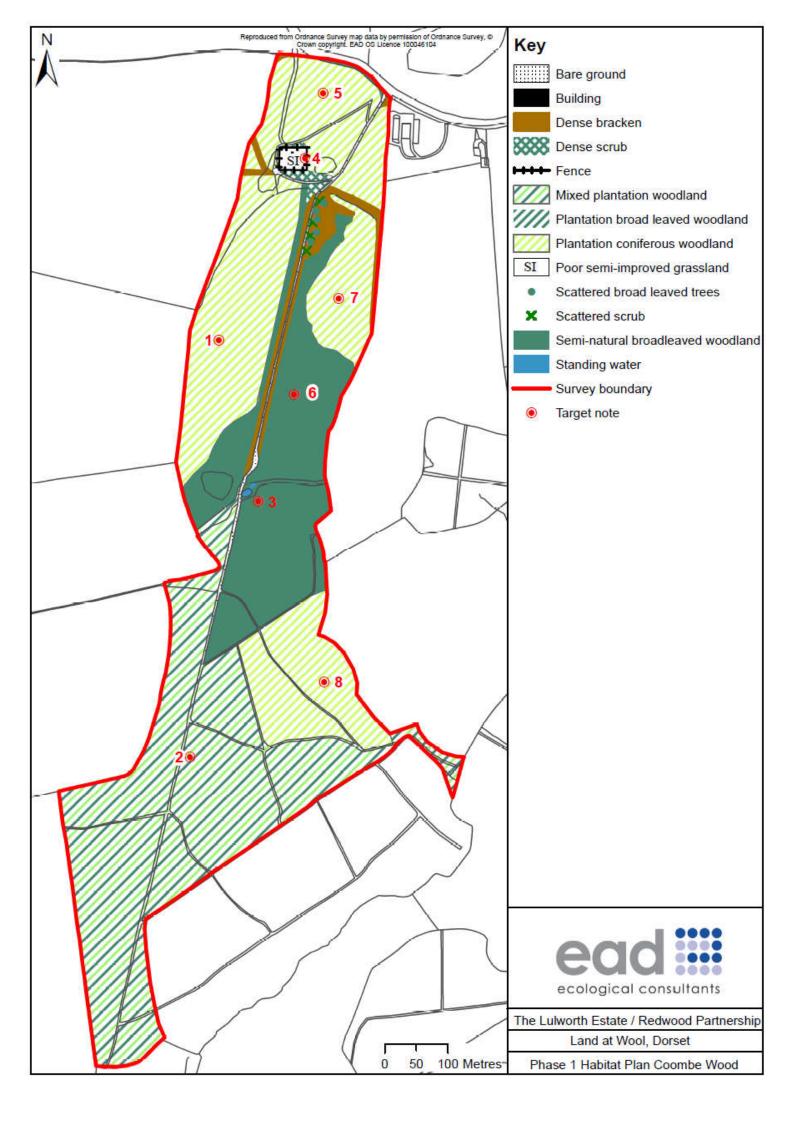
24

Former water cress bed area, now largely overgrown with mosaic of scrub and rank marshy grassland and swamp, together with slow flowing water within the former beds. Much of the area was not accessible and visible from the outside only. Scrub comprises willow, hawthorn, hazel elder and sycamore with bramble, ivy, nettle and hedge bindweed. Marshy grassland and swamp species include fleabane, willowherb sp., meadowsweet, marsh thistle, water figwort, purple loosestrife, water mint, horsetail sp., hemp agrimony and hedge bindweed. Watercress beds contained shallow slow-flowing water <15cm deep over gravel, with some fringing bulrush and branched bur-reed. Beech hedge along northern boundary.





Figure 3: Proposed SANG phase 1 habitat plan, target notes and photographs



Target	Description
note	
number	

Plantation coniferous woodland dominated by mature Corsican pine. Ground flora dominated by bracken.



Mixed plantation woodland with a range of coniferous and broadleaved tree species, including birch, larch, hazel, oak, Douglas fir, willow species, Corsican pine, Norway spruce, ash and sycamore. Understory species included blackthorn, holly and hawthorn.



Shallow pond; heavily shaded by overhanging trees, with floating sweet grass but little other associated aquatic vegetation.



4 Covered reservoir, with several small associated metal buildings.



5 Plantation coniferous woodland dominated by mature Corsican pine. Ground flora dominated by bracken.



Semi-natural broadleaved woodland; canopy comprised ask, oak and birch, with occasional larch, willow and Corsican pine. The understory vegetation was dominated by hazel, with blackthorn, holly and hawthorn. The ground flora was dominated by bramble, woodland spurge, common nettle and ivy.



7 Plantation coniferous woodland with birch and Douglas fir. Ground flora dominated by bracken.



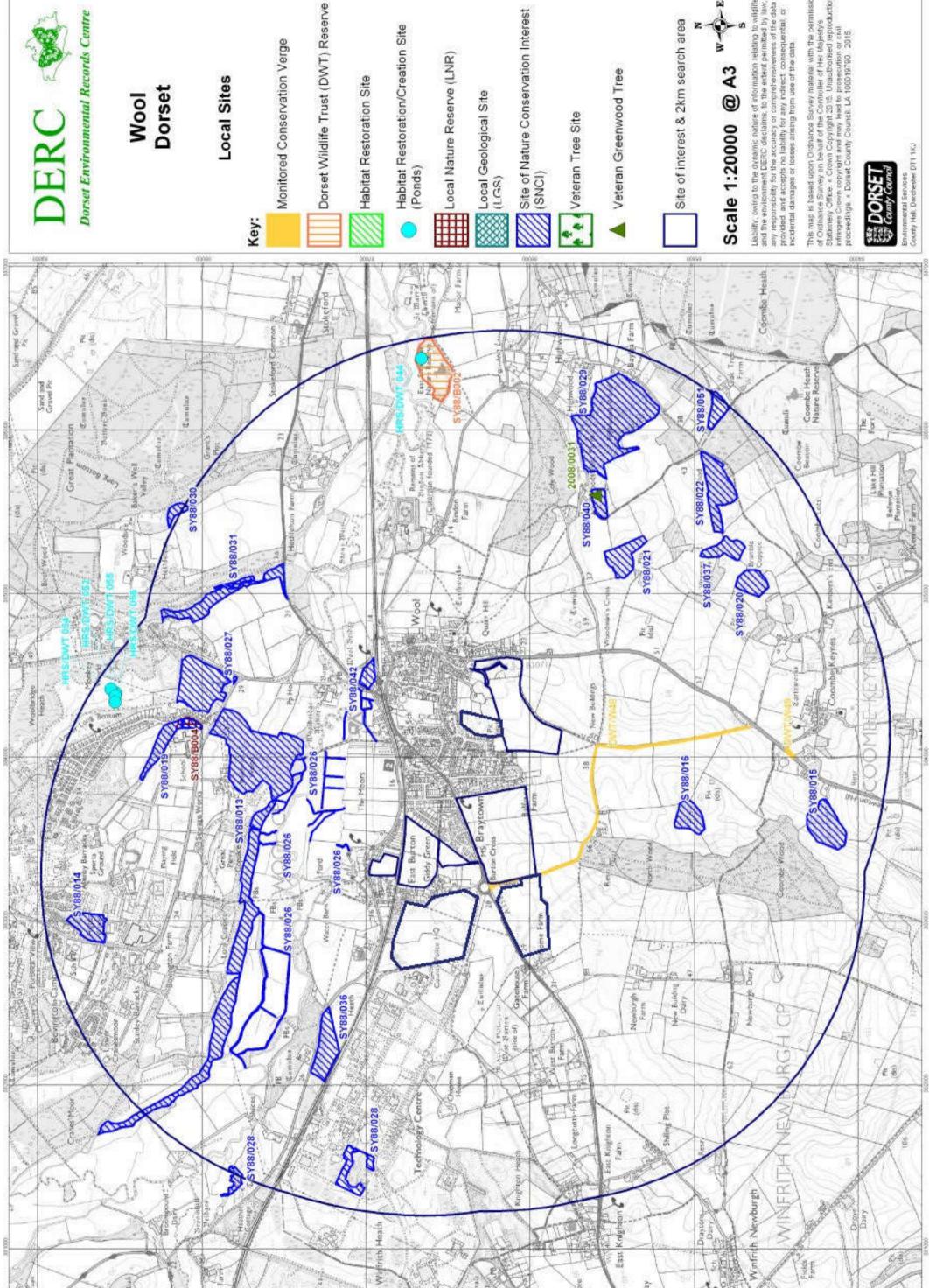
Plantation coniferous woodland with Douglas fir, larch, Norway spruce and birch. Ground flora dominated by bracken.



Figure 4: Designated sites of nature conservation value within 2km

(Information supplied by Dorset Environmental Records Centre, August 2015)

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Wool Dorset

Monitored Conservation Verge

Habitat Restoration Site

Scale 1:20000 @ A3

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Appendix 1: Species legislation and conservation status

Invertebrates

A number of UK invertebrates are protected by international and national legislation, including the EC Habitats Directive (1992) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). In addition, numerous species are Priority Species.

Plants

All wild plants are protected against unauthorised removal or uprooting under Section 13 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Plants listed on Schedule 8 of the Act (e.g. stinking goosefoot, red helleborine, monkey orchid) are afforded additional protection against picking, uprooting, destruction and sale. Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) is protected against sale only. Further species are also protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended).

Notable plant species include those that are listed as:

- Nationally vulnerable A taxon is Vulnerable when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A-E for Vulnerable, and is therefore considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild (Cheffings C M & Farrell L (Eds) (2005) Species Status No. 7 The Vascular Red Data List for Britain, JNCC (online)
- Nationally scarce species recorded in 16-100 hectads in Great Britain
- Nationally rare species occurring in 15 or fewer hectads in Great Britain

Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) prohibits the planting of certain invasive plant species in the wild, or otherwise causing them to grow there. Prohibited plants are listed on Part 2 of Schedule 9 and include Japanese knotweed, Himalayan balsam and giant hogweed.

Amphibians

There are seven native amphibian species present in Britain. These are afforded varying degrees of protection under national and European legislation. Great crested newts and their habitat are afforded full protection under UK and European legislation, including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). Together, this legislation makes it illegal to:

- Deliberately capture, injure or kill a great crested newt.
- Damage or destroy any place used for shelter or protection, including resting or breeding places; or intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to such a place.
- Deliberately, intentionally or recklessly disturb great crested newts.

Great crested newt and common toad are Priority Species.

Reptiles

Slow-worm, viviparous/common lizard, adder and grass snake are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) against intentional killing and injuring. These species are also Priority Species.

Birds

The bird breeding season generally lasts from March to early September for most species. All birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended) and the Countryside & Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000. This legislation makes it illegal, both intentionally and recklessly, to:

- kill, injure or take any wild bird;
- take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is being built or in use;
- take or destroy the eggs of any wild bird

Furthermore, birds listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) are protected against intentional or reckless disturbance whilst nest building and when at or near a nest containing eggs or young. Dependent young of Schedule 1 species are also protected against disturbance.

In addition to this legal protection, the leading governmental and non-governmental conservation organisations in the UK have reviewed the population status of the birds regularly found here and produced a list of birds of conservation concern. Of the 246 species assessed, 52 were placed on the Red List of high conservation concern, 126 on the Amber List of medium conservation concern and 68 on the Green List of low conservation concern:

- Red list species are those that are Globally Threatened according to IUCN criteria; those
 whose population or range has declined rapidly in recent years; and those that have
 declined historically and not shown a substantial recent recovery.
- Amber list species are those with an unfavourable conservation status in Europe; those
 whose population or range has declined moderately in recent years; and those with
 internationally important or localised populations.

Badgers

Badger (*Meles meles*) is a widespread and common species. However, they are legally protected under The Protection of Badgers Act 1992, due to animal welfare concerns. Under this legislation it is illegal to:

- Wilfully kill, injure, take, or cruelly ill-treat a badger, or attempt to do so
- Intentionally or recklessly interfere with a sett by disturbing badgers whilst they are occupying a sett, damaging or destroying a sett, or obstructing access to it.

A badger sett is defined in the legislation as "any structure or place, which displays signs indicating current use by a badger".

Bats

There are 18 species of bats found in the UK, 17 of which are known to breed here. The conservation status of these species is summarised in the table below:

Common name	Scientific name	IUCN Red List*	Priority Species	
Greater horseshoe	Rhinolophus ferrumequinum	LC	Yes	
Lesser horseshoe	Rhinolophus hipposideros	LC	Yes	
Daubenton's	Myotis daubentonii	LC	No	
Brandt's	Myotis brandtii	LC	No	
Whiskered	Myotis mystacinus	LC	No	
Natterer's	Myotis nattereri	LC	No	
Bechstein's	Myotis bechsteinii	NT	Yes	
Alcathoe bat	Myotis alcathoe	DD	No	
Greater mouse-eared	Myotis myotis	LC	No	
Common pipistrelle	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	LC	No	
Soprano pipistrelle	Pipistrellus pygmaeus	LC	Yes	
Nathusius's pipistre ll e	Pipistrellus nathusii	LC	No	
Serotine	Eptesicus serotinus	LC	No	
Noctule	Nyctalus noctula	LC	Yes	
Leisler's	Nyctalus leisleri	LC	No	
Barbastelle	Barbastellabarabastellus	NT	Yes	
Brown long-eared	Plectorus auritus	LC	Yes	
Grey long-eared	Plectorus austriacus	LC	No	

^{*}IUCN categories: LC Least Concern, NT Near Threatened, DD Data Deficient

All bat species are afforded full protection under UK and European legislation, including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). Together, this legislation makes it illegal to:

- Deliberately capture, injure or kill a bat.
- Damage or destroy a bat roost; or intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to bat roosts.
- Deliberately, intentionally or recklessly disturb, a bat, including in particular any disturbance which is likely:
 - to impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their voung, or
 - in the case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate;
 or
 - to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.

A bat roost is defined in the legislation as "any structure or place which a bat uses for shelter or protection". Roosts are protected whether or not bats are present at the time.

Otter

Otters (*Lutra lutra*) are fully protected under UK and European legislation, including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). Together, this legislation makes it illegal to:

- Deliberately capture, injure or kill an otter
- Damage or destroy any structure or place used for shelter or protection by an otter; or intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to such a place.
- Deliberately, intentionally or recklessly disturb an otter whilst it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection

Otter is listed as a Priority Species.

Water vole

Water vole are afforded full protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), which make it illegal to:

- Kill, injure or take a water vole.
- intentionally or recklessly destroy, damage or obstruct access to any structure or place that is used by a water vole for shelter or protection.
- intentionally or recklessly disturb a water vole whilst it is in a place used for shelter or protection.

Water vole is also a Priority Species.

Common/Hazel dormouse

The common dormouse is fully protected under UK and European legislation, including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). Together, this legislation makes it illegal to:

- Deliberately capture, injure or kill a dormouse.
- Damage or destroy any structure or place used for shelter or protection by a dormouse; or intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to such a place.
- Deliberately, intentionally or recklessly disturb a dormouse whilst it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection

The dormouse is a Priority Species.

Appendix 2: Plant species list

Scientific Name	Common Name
Trees	
Acer campestre	Field maple
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore
Betula pendula	Silver birch
Castanea sativa	Sweet chestnut
Carpinus Betulus	Hornbeam
Corylus avellana	Hazel
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Fagus sylvatica	Common beech
Fagus sylvatica f. purpurea	Copper beech
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash
Ilex aquifolium	Holly
Pinus sylvestris	Scot's pine
Populus sp.	Poplar species
Ligustrum vulgare	Wild Privet
Prunus padus	Bird cherry
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn
Quercus robur	Pedunculate oak
Salix sp.	Willow species
Sambucus nigra	Elder
Ulmus sp.	Elm species
-	Cypress species
Shrubs	
Buddleja davidii	Butterfly bush
Cornus sanguinea	Dogwod
Rosa sp.	Rose sp.
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble/Blackberry
Herbs	·
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow
Allium ursinum	Ramsons
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort
Arum maculatum	Lords-and-Ladies
Bryonia dioica	White bryony
Calystegia sepium	Hedge bindweeed
Capsella bursa-pastoris	Shepherd's purse
Cichorium intybus	Common chicory
Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle
Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle
Cirsium palustre	Marsh thistle
Epilobium sp.	Willowherb sp.
Equisetum arvense	Horsetail
Eupatorium cannabinum	Hemp agrimnoy
Filipendula ulmaria	Meadowsweet
Galium aparine	Cleavers
Geranium dissectum	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill
Glebionis segetum	Corn marigold
Hedera helix	lvy

Scientific Name	Common Name			
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed			
Hypochaeris radicata	Common cat's-ear			
Geranium molle	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill			
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy			
Linaria vulgaris	Common toadflax			
Lythrum salicaria	Purple loosestrife			
Matricaria chamomilla	Scented mayweed			
Mercurialis perennis	Dog's Mercury			
Mentha aquatica	Water mint			
Nasturtium officinale	Water cress			
Papaver rhoeas	Common poppy			
Pulicaria dysenterica	Fleabane			
Ranunculus repens	Creeping buttercup			
Rumex acetosa	Common sorrell			
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock			
Scrophularia nodosa	Common figwort			
Trifolium repens	White clover			
Urtica dioica	Common nettle			
Viola arvensis	Field pansy			
Grasses, sedges and rushes				
Arrhenatherum elatius	False oat-grass			
Carex pendula	Pendulous sedge			
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot			
Festuca rubra	Red fescue			
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog			
Juncus effusus	Soft rush			
Lolium perenne	Perennial rye-grass			
Phragmites australis	Common reed			
Poa pratensis	Smooth meadow-grass			
Poa trivialis	Rough Meadow-grass			
Ferns and horsetails				
Dryopteris dilatata	Broad buckler-fern			
Phyllitis scolopendrium	Hart's-tongue			
Polystichum setiferum	Soft Shield-fern			
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken			

Appendix 3: Conservation Objectives of European Designated Sites





European Site Conservation Objectives for Dorset Heaths Special Area of Conservation Site Code: UK0019857

With regard to the SAC and the natural habitats and/or species for which the site has been designated (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species
- > The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely
- The populations of qualifying species, and,
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

This document should be read in conjunction with the accompanying *Supplementary Advice* document, which provides more detailed advice and information to enable the application and achievement of the Objectives set out above.

Qualifying Features:

H4010. Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix; Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath

H4030. European dry heaths

H6410. Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*); Purple moor-grass meadows

H7150. Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion; Depressions on peat substrates

H7210. Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae; Calcium-rich fen dominated by great fen sedge (saw sedge)*

H7230. Alkaline fens; Calcium-rich springwater-fed fens

H9190. Old acidophilous oak woods with Quercus robur on sandy plains; Dry oak-dominated woodland

S1044. Coenagrion mercuriale; Southern damselfly

S1166. Triturus cristatus; Great crested newt





European Site Conservation Objectives for Dorset Heathlands Special Protection Area Site Code: UK9010101

With regard to the SPA and the individual species and/or assemblage of species for which the site has been classified (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring;

- > The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features
- The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features
- The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely
- The population of each of the qualifying features, and,
- The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.

This document should be read in conjunction with the accompanying *Supplementary Advice* document, which provides more detailed advice and information to enable the application and achievement of the Objectives set out above.

Qualifying Features:

A082 Circus o	vaneus; Hen	harrier ((Non-breeding)
---------------	-------------	-----------	----------------

- A098 Falco columbarius; Merlin (Non-breeding)
- A224 Caprimulgus europaeus; European nightjar (Breeding)
- A246 Lullula arborea; Woodlark (Breeding)
- A302 Sylvia undata; Dartford warbler (Breeding)





European Site Conservation Objectives for Dorset Heaths (Purbeck and Wareham) and Studland Dunes Special Area of Conservation Site Code: UK0030038

With regard to the SAC and the natural habitats and/or species for which the site has been designated (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species
- > The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely
- The populations of qualifying species, and,
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

This document should be read in conjunction with the accompanying *Supplementary Advice* document, which provides more detailed advice and information to enable the application and achievement of the Objectives set out above.

Qualifying Features:

H2110. Embryonic shifting dunes

H2120. Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* ("white dunes"); Shifting dunes with marram

H2150. Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea); Coastal dune heathland*

H2190. Humid dune slacks

H3110. Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (*Littorelletalia uniflorae*); Nutrient-poor shallow waters with aquatic vegetation on sandy plains

H4010. Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix; Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath

H4020. Temperate Atlantic wet heaths with Erica ciliaris and Erica tetralix; Wet heathland with Dorsel heath and cross-leaved heath*

H4030. European dry heaths





European Site Conservation Objectives for Isle of Portland to Studland Cliffs Special Area of Conservation Site Code: UK0019861

With regard to the SAC and the natural habitats and/or species for which the site has been designated (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species
- > The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely
- The populations of qualifying species, and,
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

This document should be read in conjunction with the accompanying *Supplementary Advice* document, which provides more detailed advice and information to enable the application and achievement of the Objectives set out above.

Qualifying Features:

H1210. Annual vegetation of drift lines

H1230. Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts

H6210. Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia); Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone

S1654. Gentianella anglica; Early gentian





European Site Conservation Objectives for Poole Harbour Special Protection Area Site Code: UK9010111

With regard to the SPA and the individual species and/or assemblage of species for which the site has been classified (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring;

- > The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features
- The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features
- > The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely
- The population of each of the qualifying features, and,
- > The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.

This document should be read in conjunction with the accompanying *Supplementary Advice* document, which provides more detailed advice and information to enable the application and achievement of the Objectives set out above.

Qualifying Features:

A048 Tadorna tadorna; Common shelduck (Non-breeding)

A132 Recurvirostra avosetta; Pied avocet (Non-breeding)

A156 Limosa limosa islandica; Black-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)

A176 Larus melanocephalus; Mediterranean gull (Breeding)

A193 Sterna hirundo; Common tern (Breeding)

Waterbird assemblage



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